(c) the action taken to assist the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Space Scientists on Foreign Postings

1843. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) in which countries have our space scientists been posted;

(b) the works they are supposed to do;

(c) what is criteria for selecting space scientists for foreign postings;

(d) whether there is any system of mid-term appraisal their performance outside; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) The Department of Space (DOS) has posted its Scientists/Enginerrs in USA, France and Mauritius as given below:

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Scientists/ Engrs. posted
1.	USA	1
2.	France	1
3.	Mauritius	2
	Total	4

(b) The Scientists posted in USA and France are responsible for Liaision and coordination between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and relevant space institutions/industries abroad dealing with Space Technology and its applications;

The Scientists posted to Mauritius are responsible for:

(i) providing telemetry, tracking and command operations support to Indian Remote Sensing Satellites through a set of equipment at our Ground Station in Mauritius on a continuous basis; and

(ii) to carryout maintenance and installation activities, whenever required, for the equipment in the station etc.

(c) The criteria for selection of Scientists/Engineers posted at USA and France are that the selectee should be an experienced Space Scientists with technomanagerial ability to assess the needs of Indian Space Programme and undertake technical liaison abroad and to establish and maintain scientific and technical linkages with space agencies, space industries and other institutions. Selection will be from amongst senior Scientists/ Engineers, by a High Level Committee.

In the of Scientists/Engineers posted at Mauritius, the selection is based on technical skill the Scientists/Engineers possess with regard to Ground Station Equipment, their operation and maintenance, spacecraft operations support, space communication links, experience with similar activities in Ground Station in India etc.

(d) Yes, Sir, performance appraisal is done annually.

(e) Does not arise.

Launching of INSAT-2E

1844. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to launch INSAT-2E;

(b) if so, what kind of services are likely to be rendered from INSAT-2E;

(c) the expected date of launching it; and